CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A device for cleaning tanks, comprising:

a hollow, continuous, rigid pipe having a straight portion and a curved portion, the straight portion having a connecting end for connecting to a source of cleaning fluid, the curved portion being substantially semicircular and having a nozzle end for emitting a stream of cleaning fluid.

2. The device of claim 1 wherein the curved portion is tapered to form the nozzle end.

3. The device of claim 1 wherein the nozzle end further comprises a connector and a detachable nozzle.

4. The device of claim 1 wherein said pipe is made from plastic.

5. The device of claim 1 wherein said pipe has an inside diameter of 3/4 inches and the curved porion has a radius of about 15 inches.

6. The device of claim 1 wherein the connecting end comprises a coupling which is rotabable through 360°.

7. The device of claim 2 wherein the nozzle end of the pipe is sufficiently reduced in diameter so as to increase the velocity of the fluid exiting therefrom.

8. The device of claim 1 wherein the pipe is made from steel, aluminum or fiberglass.

9. A method for cleaning tanks, comprising:

(a) inserting a tank cleaning device into a tank, the tank cleaning device comprising a hollow, continuous, rigid pipe having a center axis, straight portion and a curved portion, the straight portion having a connecting end for connecting to a source of cleaning fluid, the curved portion being substantially semicircular and having a center point and a nozzle end;

(b) supplying a source of pressurized cleaning fluid to the tank cleaning device to cause a jet of cleaning fluid to be emitted from the nozzle end; and

(c) rotating the tank cleaning device about the center axis and the center point to cause the jet of cleaning fluid to impinge on an interior wall of the tank.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the jet of cleaning fluid impinges on the interior wall in a sweeping motion.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein the jet of cleaning fluid is directed sequentially from an upper interior surface of the tank to a lower interior surface.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein containinated cleaning fluid is removed from the tank through a discharge port in the bottom of the tank.

13. A device for cleaning tanks, comprising: a flexible hose having a nozzle and connectable to a source of cleaning fluid; the hose being disposed within a hollow, continuous, rigid pipe having a straight portion, and a curved portion; the curved portion being substantially semicurcular and an open end; the nozzle being disposed in the open end of the curved portion.

14. The device of claim 13 wherein the flexible hose is a high pressure, heat resistant, braided rubber hose.

15. The device of claim 13 wherein said pipe is made from aluminum, steel fiberglass or plastic.

16. A method for cleaning tanks, comprising;

(a) inserting a tank cleaning device into a tank, a fleible hose having a nozzle and connectable to a source of cleaning fluid, the fleible hose being disposed within a hollow, coninuous, rigid pipe having a center axis, a straight portion and a curved portion, the curved portion being substantially semicurcular and having a center point and an open end; the nozzle being disposed in the open end of the curved portion.

(b) Applying a source of pressurized cleaning fluid to the hose to cause a jet of cleaning fluid to be emitted from the nozzle; and

(c)rotating the tank cleaning device about the center axis and the center point to cause the jet of cleaning fluid to impinge on an interior wall of the tank.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the jet of cleaning fluid impinges on the interior wall in sweeping motion.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein the jet of cleaing fluid id directed sequentially from an upper interior surface of the tank to a lower interior surface.

19. The method of claimn 16 wherein contaminated cleaning fluid is removed from the tank through a discharge port in the bottom of the tank.